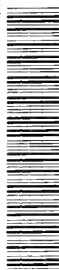


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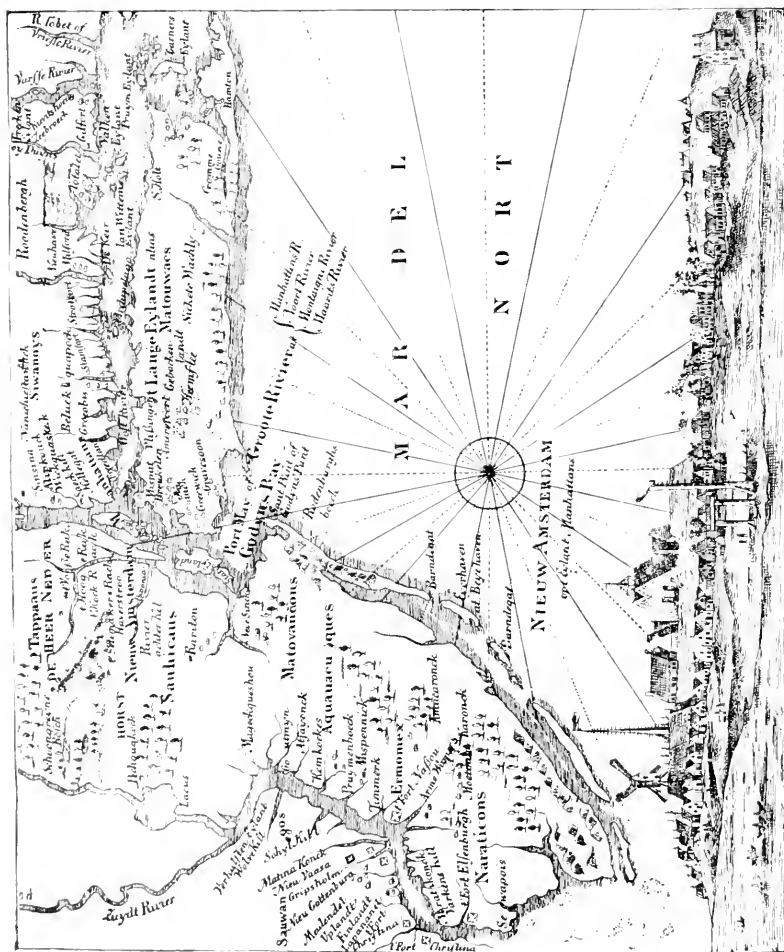
BOWLING GREEN

BY G. O.
SPENCER, TR.



BOWLING GREEN





from "In Old New York,"

MAP OF NEW NETHERLANDS.

WITH A VIEW OF NEW AMSTERDAM (NOW NEW YORK), A.D. 1656.

From Adriaen van der Donck's "New Netherlands," Edition of 1656.

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BOWLING GREEN

BY

SPENCER TRASK

ILLUSTRATED

G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS
NEW YORK AND LONDON
The Knickerbocker Press

1898

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ILLUSTRATIONS

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VIEW OF NEW AMSTERDAM (NOW
NEW YORK), A.D. 1656. *Frontispiece*

From Adriaen van der Donck's *New Netherlands*,
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BOWLING GREEN



NEW YORK is cosmopolitan, essentially so, beyond all large cities of the world. Absorbed in the whirl and stir of the To-day, occupied with vast schemes and enterprises for the Tomorrow, overswept by a constant influx of new life and new elements,

it seems to have no individual entity. It does not hold fast its old traditions, its past associations. It is hurried on, in the quickstep of its march of improvement, far away from its starting-point : and as it goes and grows with rapid progress into something new and vast, it ruthlessly obliterates its old landmarks and forgets its early history. It is well, sometimes, to look back and remember the beginning of things,

March of
Improvement

The
Bowling
Green

to quicken our civic pride by measuring our growth, to recall the struggles and the conquests which proved the courage, patience, and stamina of the people who made New York what it is.

There is no piece of land on Manhattan Island which has retained for a longer period its distinctive name, and at the same time fulfilled more thoroughly the purposes of its creation, than the small park at the extreme southern end of Broadway known as Bowling Green. It is the one historic spot which has never lost its identity or been diverted from public use since the foundation of the city.



THE "SEA MEW" IN THE BAY

The history of the city from the time when the good ship *Sea Mew* sailed into the bay, May 6, 1626, bearing the doughty Dutch Governor, Peter Minuet,—with no city and no peo-

ple as yet to govern,—to the present, might almost be written from what has been seen and heard from this small plot of land.

The West India Company was chartered by the States-General of Holland in 1621. In 1625, enough capital had been raised, and colonists obtained, to warrant the Company in beginning to avail itself of the almost unlimited privileges granted, of exclusive trade along the whole Atlantic coast, and of almost sovereign power.

The first act of the honest Dutchman on that May morn was to call together the Manhattan tribe of Indians, probably on the very site of the future Green. There

he traded for the whole island, named after the tribe, estimated at that time to contain about "11,000 Dutch morgens,"¹ or 22,000 acres, a quantity of beads, trinkets, etc., valued at sixty guilders, or about twenty-four dollars, a sum far less than that now paid for a single square foot of any portion of that land which then came within his vision. From this sharp bar-

Barter
with
Indians

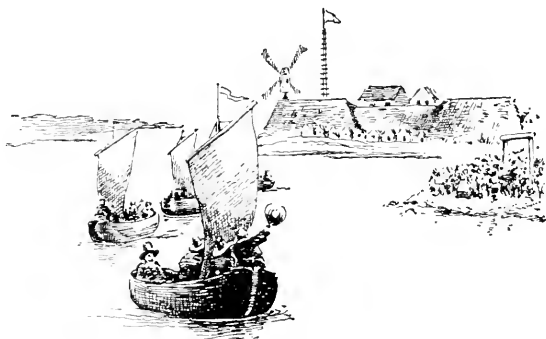


FIRST SEAL OF CITY. 1623-1654.

The Fort

gain was to grow the city that was destined to be the commercial metropolis of the new continent, and the second largest city of the world.

In order to insure peaceable possession, a fort was built, seemingly under the direction of one Kryn Frederycke, and in 1635, a larger



THE FORT.

one was erected at the contract price of \$1635. It was 300 feet long, and 250 wide. This enclosed the Governor's house, barracks, and, later, the church. The contract for the building of the church required it to be of "Rock Stone," 72 feet long, 52 feet broad, and 16 feet high. The price was \$1000. This fort occupied the space between the present streets called Whitehall, Bridge, State, and Bowling Green. The sally-port was at the north.



The large open space opposite the sally-port was set apart and known at first as "The Plaine," afterwards to become the Bowling Green. It held a place of great importance in the annals of the city in times of peace and times of war. This was the village green, which

"The
Plaine"



DANCING.

marked the growing social life of the people. Here the children played, looking far off into the watery distance as they remembered stories of their grandfathers' and fathers' homes beyond the sea ; here the youths and maidens danced

How the
Green was
Used

on holidays and crowned their loveliest on the first of May, wreathing their May-poles with the early green. It was also the parade-ground for the soldiers. On Sundays, we can see it crowded with the country wagons of all descriptions, of those who came to worship at the church "within the Fort," the horses being turned loose to graze on the hillside running down to the water on the site of the present Battery. Here, also, was the well, built for the use both of the garrison and of the general public. Tradition has affirmed that the site of this well was originally a spring, the surplus waters of which ran in a little brook down the present line of Beaver Street, and contributed to form the marsh in the present Broad Street, then called "Blommaert's" Valley.

Here Governor Van Twiller proved his valor and his contempt for the English. An English trading vessel came into the bay to trade with Indians up the river. One of the sailors deposes that——

"The Dutch here inhabitinge send and command all our Companye (excepte one boye) to come to their forte, where they staide about twoe houres and the Governor commande his gunner to make ready three peeces of ordnance and shott them off for the Prince of Orange, and sprede the Prince's Coloures. Where-upon Jacob Elekins, the merchant's factor of the Shippe, the *William*, commande William

Fforde of Lymehouse (the gunner) to go aboard the Shippe and sprede her coloures and shoote off three peeces of ordnance for the Kinge of England."²

Then Jacob Elekins coolly sailed up the river in defiance of the guns of the fort, leaving the astonished Governor to meditate on his audacity. Thunderstruck at such an act of temerity, Van Twiller summoned all the people to "The Plaine," then ordering a cask of wine

Governor
Van
Twiller's
Valer



"PIPE OF PEACE."

and another of beer to be rolled out, he filled a glass and called on all good citizens to drink a health to the Prince of Orange and confusion to the English.

Here, after two years of a bloody and sav-

10	Bowling Green
Annual Fairs	<p>age war with the surrounding Indians, during which the island was almost depopulated, the farms destroyed, and many adjacent settlements obliterated, the sachems of all the hostile tribes assembled August 30, 1645, smoked the calumet of peace, and buried the tomahawk, pledging eternal friendship with the whites.³</p> <p>In 1641, Governor Kieft established two annual fairs for the encouragement of agriculture, the first for cattle, to begin October 15, and the second for hogs, to begin November 1. These were ordered to be held "att the markett house and plaine afore the forte." This fair was the great annual event of the city, forerunner of the Horse Fair and Dog Show. We can picture the sturdy burghers and their fair vrouws, in all the glory of starched ruffs and variegated quilted petticoats, discussing the respective merits of their Holsteins and hogs. One inducement held out to attract strangers was that no one should be liable for arrest for debt during the continuance of the fair. This must have materially added to the number of visitors.</p> <p>The peace and quiet of the worthy burghers, as indicated by these fairs and social gatherings, were rudely shaken when, early in 1653, a war having broken out between England and Holland, an invasion from New England was threatened. At a General Ses-</p>



sion of the Councillors held March 13, 1653,⁴ it was resolved.

"1st. That the whole body of citizens shall keep watch by night in such places as shall be designated, the City Tavern to be the temporary headquarters."

"2nd. That the Fort be repaired."

"3rd. Because the Fort is not large enough to contain all the inhabitants, it is deemed necessary to enclose the city with palisades and breastworks."

"4th. Some way must be devised to raise money."

"5th. Captain Vischer is to be requested to fix his sails, to have his piece loaded, and to keep his vessel in readiness."

(Whether for fight or flight is not said!)

Evidently not much reliance could have been placed upon the palisades, for on July 28, the Governor sends a missive to the City Magistrates, stating that the palisades are completed, and requesting them "to keep the hogs away from the repaired ramparts of the Fort."⁵ Some years later we find the following entry:

"Whereas, the fortifications of this city



War
Prepara-
tions

14	Bowling Green
War Pre- cautions	<p>have at great and excessive expense, trouble and labor of the Burghery and inhabitants, been mostly completed, and it is therefore necessary for the preservation of the same and better security of this city some orders be made, therefore——</p> <p>“Item. It is strictly forbidden and prohibited, that any person, be he who he may,</p> <div data-bbox="298 514 884 1031" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>THE PALISADES.</p> <p>presume to land within this City, or quit the same in any other manner, way or means, than thro the ordinary City Gate, on paine of Death. And finally, as it is found that the hogs which are kept within this city in multitudes along the public streets, have from time to time committed great damage on the east-</p>

ern fortifications, and that the same are most certainly to be expected in like manner here on the erected works, every one who keeps hogs within this city is here ordered and charged to take care *that*

their hogs shall not come to, in or on the Butworks,

Bastions, Gardens or Batteries, under forfeiture of

said hogs, and double the value thereof, to be ap-

plied the one half for the informer, the other half

for the informer who shall put this in execution.

Every one is hereby warned and put on his guard against injury."

"By order of the Heer Govnr. Gen. of N. Netherlands.

N. Bayard, Sec'y."

Fortunately no more serious assaults than these from the hogs and from the horns of the cattle were made against the palisades, for peace was shortly after declared between England and Holland, and their colonies had to restrain their martial ardor.

The following year but one was again full of fears; for in February, 1655, a council of war was held to consider a threatened attack of the Swedes on the South (Delaware) River. It was then "Deemed necessary that the for-



THE FORTIFICATIONS.

Ordinance
against
Hogs

War
against
the
Swedes

tifications be repaired"—the cattle probably in the meantime having become obstreperous and displayed their ferocity against the stockade—"by spiking with good spikes, a blind of planks five or six feet in height against the palisades."



AN INFORMER.

Again was all this precaution useless, for, the Swedes not coming, Governor Stuyvesant decided to go to them; and the council of war, at a special meeting, having applied for and obtained "two drummers to improve the marching of the militia," the valiant army set forth, and returned triumphant, having destroyed the Swedish fort. Later in this year a foray of Indians was made in the surrounding country, and the vigilant magistrates, on



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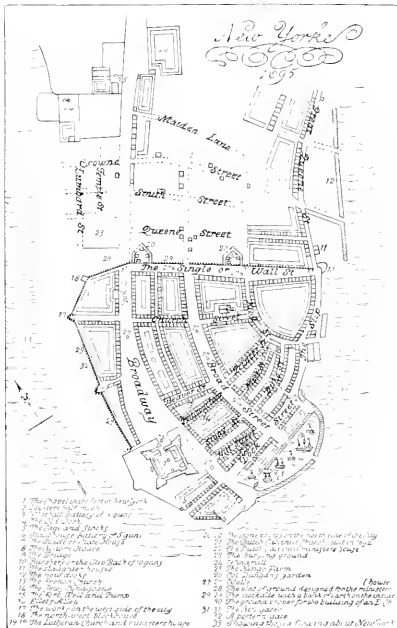
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September 20, resolved "to raise up the palisades to the height of at least 10 or 12 feet, to prevent the *overloopen* [jumping over] of the savages."

The palisades, or stockade, extended along the East River, from near the present head of Coenties Slip, on the line of Pearl Street, crossing the fields to the North River, on the present north side of Wall Street (whence its name), and then along the North River to the fort, just east of Greenwich Street, which was then under water. The map of the city in 1695 shows the line of the palisades. In digging the foundation of the new Bowling Green Offices, 5-11 Broadway, a large number of these old posts were found many feet under the surface. Although nearly two hundred and fifty years old, the portions found were in a wonderful state of preservation. Canes and other mementos have been made from these.

War's rude alarms for a while having ceased, the citizens turned their attention to the improving of the city. First, a census was taken, which showed 120 houses and 1000 inhabitants. The average price of the best city lots was then fifty dollars, while the rent of an av-

The Palisades



THE DRUMMER.

20	Bowling Green
Market on the Bowling Green	<p data-bbox="335 233 940 299">erage good house was fourteen dollars per annum.</p> <p data-bbox="335 304 940 511">The ditch, which heretofore had run through the centre of Broad Street, was sided up with boards. Several of the streets were ordered paved with stone, whence Stone Street received its name, being one of the first paved streets in the city.</p> <p data-bbox="335 515 940 613">In 1659, an ordinance was passed establishing a public market on the present Bowling Green.⁶</p> <p data-bbox="335 617 940 790">“It is found good and resolved, that for all fat cattle brought to the market (not slaughtered) posts shall be erected by the side of the church where those who bring such cattle to market for sale shall present them.</p> <p data-bbox="335 794 940 931">“It is also resolved, that shambles be built, a cover be made, and a block brought in, and that the key be given to Andries, the baker, who shall keep oversight of the same.”</p> <p data-bbox="335 936 940 1174">It was at this time made the duty of the Sheriff to go around the city at night. He evidently must have considered this as detracting from his dignity, for he officially complains, “That the dogs attack him; that the people cause frights by halloing ‘Indian’ in the night, and that the boys cut ‘koeckies.’”</p> <p data-bbox="335 1179 940 1315">For some time the English colonists occupying the country to the north and the south of New Netherland had been restive, and the home government was more than willing to</p>



Kemble.

back up their claims that no rival power should separate their possessions, claiming that the Dutch occupation was usurpation of the English rights. Charles the Second, with kingly liberality, granted a patent under date of March 12, 1664, to his brother James, Duke of York, bestowing upon him the whole of New Netherland, and that part of Connecticut lying west of the Connecticut River. That he had no right or title in this property disturbed him little, he believing, with other monarchs of that time, that might made right. The King had previously granted to the Earl of Sterling the whole of Long Island; in order to consolidate his possessions, James bought this of him for three hundred pounds, and then arranged to send an expedition to take formal possession of all his new territory. The utter uselessness of resistance, notwithstanding the amount of work and time that had been spent upon the fort and palisades, was apparent to the Governor's Council and the Burgomasters, even if not to the Governor

Grant
to the
Duke of
York



New
Amster=
dam
becomes
New York

himself. In vain Peter Stuyvesant stormed around on his wooden leg, endeavoring to infuse his own courage into the others. He finally, however, was compelled to yield to necessity, and on August 26, 1664, the capitulation was formally agreed upon, New Amsterdam thenceforth becoming (except for a short period when, in 1673, the Dutch retook the city and held it for about a year) known as New York. The terms of surrender were most favorable, it being agreed that the West Indies Company should enjoy all their "fast property" except forts, etc. ; the then magistrates were continued in office until future election by the people ; the Dutch inhabitants were confirmed in their property and liberties. There seems little question but that the people generally felt that the change of government would be for their ultimate good. At any rate, they accepted the situation gracefully, for a few months after the capitulation the Burgomasters (being the same who had been in office at the time of the surrender) sent the following petition :⁷

"To His Royal Highness The Duke of York, by the Grace of God, our most Gracious Lord, Greeting."

"It hath pleased God to bring us under your R. H's obedience, wherein we promise to conduct ourselves as good subjects are bound to do, deeming ourselves fortunate

that His Highness hath provided us with so gentle, wise, and intelligent a gentleman for Governor as the Hon. Col. Richard Nichols, confident and assured *that under the wings of this valiant gentleman we shall bloom and grow like the Cedar of Lebanon.*"

Petition
to the
Duke of
York



BURGOMASTERS

Assuming that this gracious acceptance of the inevitable, in all the rhetorical splendor of its mixed metaphor, must soften his heart, they at once proceed to request further rights and privileges, and pray to be relieved from certain onerous imposts and burdens for five or six years.

Doubting not but His Royal Highness will at the close of these years learn with hearty delight the advancement of this Province, even to a place from which your Royal Highness shall come to derive great revenue, being then peopled with thousands of families, and having great trade by sea from New England and other places out of Europe, Africa or America."

Recapture
of the City
by the
Dutch

Certainly these Burgomasters, with their prophetic souls, could not be accused of any old-fashioned ideas as to loyalty and allegiance to their past, for in the very next year, in the record of the "proceedings of the Burgomasters and Schepens," under date of June 24, 1665, it is recorded: "This day, after the usual ringing of the city-hall bell three times, is published a certain proclamation regarding the confiscation of the West India Co's effects, in consequence of the Company inflicting all sorts of injury on His Royal Majesty's subjects." Thus passed away the last rights of the West India Company.

In 1673, war having been declared by England against Holland, a Dutch fleet appeared in the harbor of New York, and recaptured the city on August 9, 1673. The name was then changed to New Orange. Only for a short period, however, were the Dutch allowed to retain possession, for the next year a treaty of peace was signed between the parent countries, by the terms of which Surinam was given to the Dutch as an equivalent for New York !! The city was restored to the English, November 10, 1674, and the name changed back to New York. Under the sway of the English, increased prosperity came to the city. Among the privileges granted was a monopoly in the bolting of flour and in the exportation of sea-biscuit and flour. The im-

portance of this monopoly, which lasted until 1694, can hardly be over-estimated, since it gave New York a commercial importance which it has never since lost. In 1686, under Governor Dongan, a charter was granted to the city, which still forms the basis of its municipal rights and privileges. At the same time a new seal was given which, with the substitution of an eagle for a crown and a sailor for one of the Indians, is virtually the present seal of the city. This seal retained the beaver from the old seal of 1623, emblematic of the city's commercial beginning, and added to it the flour-barrel and the arms of a wind-mill, as tokens of the prosperity which had come to it from the Bolting Act.

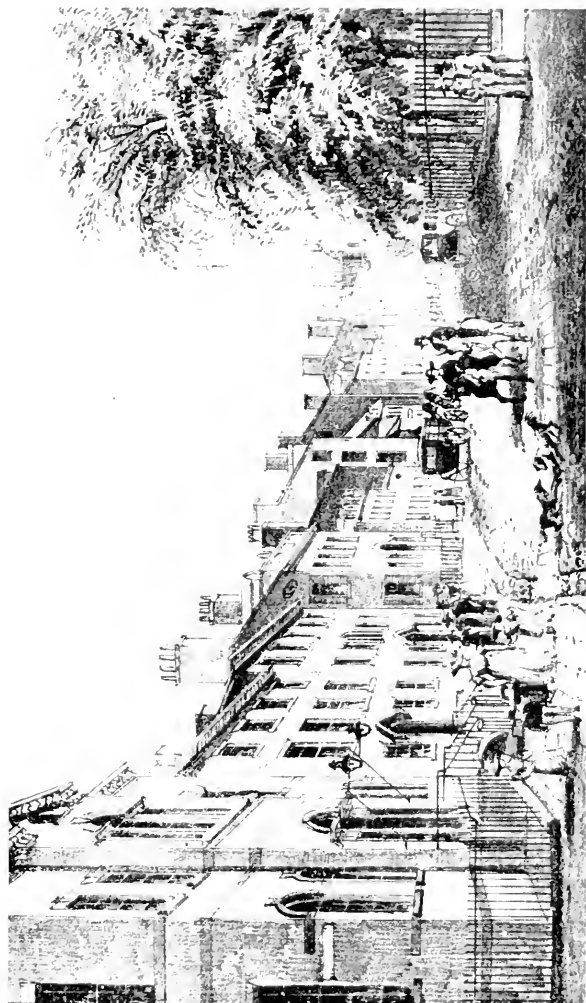


SEAL OF CITY, 1686, GRANTED BY JAMES II.

The
Dongan
Charter
and Seal

Interesting as it would be to follow the history of the city and its gradual progress towards its present condition, space compels us to confine ourselves more especially to those events and changes which show the evolution of the Bowling Green and its immediate

30	Bowling Green
First Grants of Lots	<p>neighborhood. The lower part of Broadway, facing Bowling Green, in common with that upon the east-side, was simply designated as "The Market-field." Afterwards, it received the name of the "Heere Straat," or Great Highway, and later the name "Broad Way." Grants of lots were first made, and deeds given, in 1642. Until then settlers had been allowed to occupy land as they saw fit, and lines and boundaries were established by chance, or according to each one's own sweet will.</p> <p>In 1643, the first lot granted on "De Heere Straat" was deeded to Martin Cregier. It was thus described (translated from the Dutch)*:</p> <p>"Grant to Marten Cregier, 1643. Lot for a house and garden lying north of the Fort, extending from the house, about west, nine rods two feet; towards the fort, south, six rods nine feet. Again about east, with a great out-point, fourteen rods six feet; further, to the place of beginning, four rods five feet. Amounting, in an uneven, four-sided figure, to eighty-six rods three feet." This lot is now known as numbers 9 and 11 Broadway, being part of the land upon which the Bowling Green Offices are built.</p> <p>The city fathers, in their later attempt to lay out the city, and to fix lines and boundaries, in April, 1744, "Ordered: That the owners of the houses between Mr. Chambers and Mr. De-peysters corner house, by the Bowling Green,</p>



Bowling Green

33

have liberty to range their fronts in such manner as the Alderman and Assistant of the West Ward may think proper." * And again, in May of the next year, they

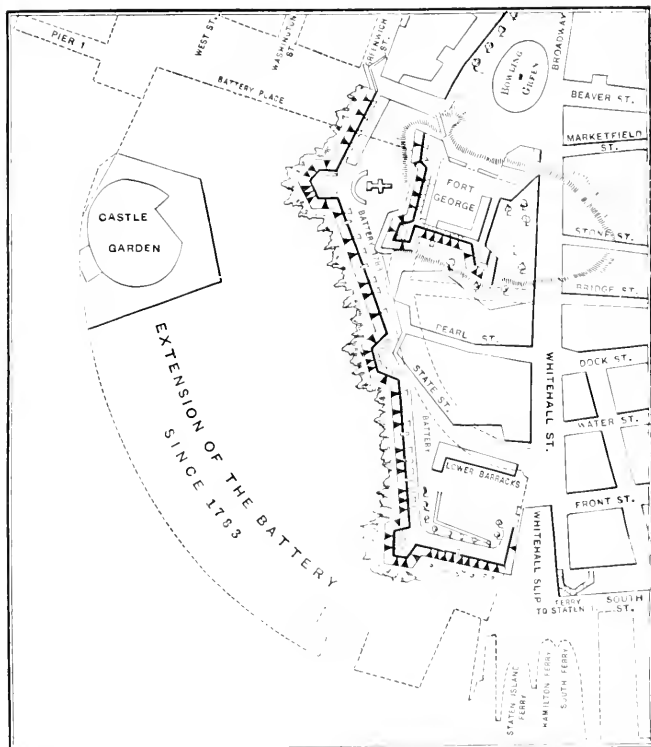
"Ordered: That a straight line be drawn from the south corner of the house of Mr. Augustus Jay, now in the occupation of Peter Warren, Esquire, to the north Corner of the house of Archibald Kennedy, fronting the Bowling Green in the Broad Way, and that Mr. William Smith, who is now about to build a house (and all other persons who shall build between the two houses) lay their foundations and build conformably to the aforesaid straight line."

The liberty given to the owners of the houses by the ordinance of 1744, "to range their fronts" as might be thought proper, was so thoroughly availed of that even until the present time, one hundred and fifty years after, no attention has been paid to the later order of 1745, for the buildings pulled down in 1895, to make room for the new Bowling Green Offices, were very far from being on a line, and the few buildings still remaining to the north, towards Morris Street, do not even yet front on a straight line. A view taken in 1835, shows the projecting edges of the houses. The map of the city in 1695,* shows that the waters of the North River came beyond the

* See page 10.

Attempts
to fix
Lines of
Houses

34	Bowling Green
Opening New Streets	<p>present eastern side of Greenwich Street. A later map shows how the city has been gradually extended, the dotted lines marking the water-line at various periods.</p> <p>In 1723, the city offered for sale the lands between high- and low-water mark, "from the house of Mr. Gaasbeck near the Fort to the green trees, commonly called the locust trees, near the English Church,"¹⁰ or from the present Battery to Rector Street. In 1729, it was ordered: "For the better utility of trade and commerce, and increasing the buildings within the city, and improving the revenue of the corporation," that two streets should be surveyed and laid out along the Hudson River, one street of forty feet in width at high-water mark, and the other of thirty feet in width at low-water mark; the high-water mark to be the centre of one street, and the low-water mark to be the centre of the other." These streets are the present Greenwich and Washington Streets, the former deriving its name from its being an extension of a lane which led to Greenwich Village. Notwithstanding the "order," it was some years before anything was done towards filling in the land and opening these streets, for on a map so late as 1755 these streets are not shown as existing at their southern end.</p> <p>In March, 1732, the then city fathers¹¹</p> <p>"Resolved, that this Corporation will lease</p>



From "In Old New York"

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a piece of land lying at the lower end of Broadway, fronting to the Fort, to some of the inhabitants of the said Broadway, in order to be inclosed to make a Bowling-Green thereof, with walks therein, for the beauty and ornament of said street, as well as for the recreation and delight of the inhabitants of the city, leaving the Street on each side thereof 50 ft. in breadth."

First
Ordinance
naming
Bowling
Green



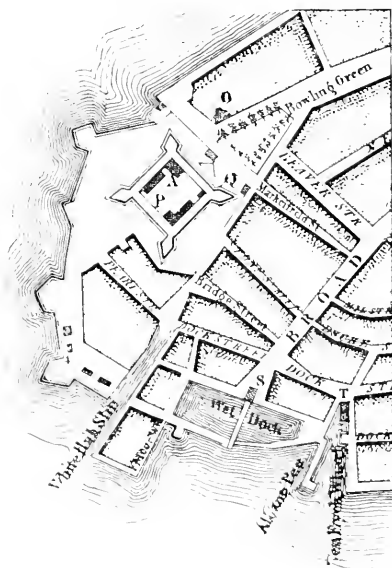
STAINED GLASS WINDOW IN "BOWLING GREEN OFFICES."

SHOWING GREEN ABOUT 1760.

Three public-spirited and sport-loving citizens, John Chambers, Peter Bayard, and Peter Jay,—may their names be placed upon the roll of the worthy,—hired, in accordance with this resolution, this ground, theretofore called "The Plaine," and later, "The Parade," for a term of eleven years, at the enormous rent of one peppercorn per annum, and prepared it for the sport of bowls. Let us hope they did not charge too much per game to recoup themselves. As this lease neared its termination,

Renewal
of Lease

it was ordered that it be renewed for eleven years, on payment of twenty shillings per annum, the lessees being John Chambers, Colonel Phillipse, and John Roosevelt. We are not told what happened at the expiration of this

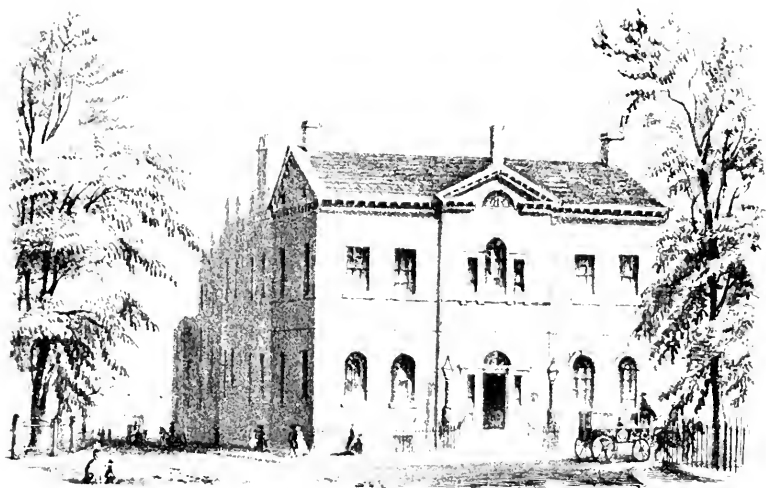


PART OF PLAN OF CITY, 1763.

SURVEYED BY F. MAERSCHALCK.

A.—The Fort. O.—Custom House. P.—Governor's House. Q.—Secretary's Office. S.—Exchange. T.—Fish Market. 4.—Block House.

lease, whether they demanded a reduction of rent, and failing to obtain it abandoned the Green, or whether other sports became the fad



Bowling Green

41

of the ultra-fashionables, whose houses then surrounded the Green.

White
Hall

In a map of 1763,* we find Greenwich Street has been opened, the Bowling Green being then laid down in the shape of a triangle. The land beside the Fort, on the east and west side, was anciently called "T' Marekvelt," or "The Market-field," from its vicinity to the markets then held on the "Plaine," or Bowling Green. The portion on the east is now Whitehall Street. The name "Market-field," however, remains in connection with the small street originally running from Whitehall to Broad, formerly called "Petticoat Lane," a part of which has since been obliterated to make room for the present Produce Exchange. The name "Whitehall" originated in a large storehouse on the corner of Whitehall and State Streets, built by Peter Stuyvesant, afterwards falling into the hands of Governor Dongan, he named it the "White Hall." This subsequently, for a little while, became the custom-house of the city, which later was moved to number 1 Broadway.¹²

This plot of land, 1 Broadway, had originally been owned by a widow, Annetje Kocks, who for years kept a tavern here. In 1760, Captain Kennedy, afterwards Earl of Cassilis, built on this corner a mansion, which was destined to be famous for many

* See page 38.

The
Wash-
ington
Building

years. The garden in its rear extended to the Hudson River. Captain Kennedy, returning to England prior to the Revolution, left the property to his son Robert, from whom it passed to the late Nathaniel Prime, a leading banker of the city. In the spring of 1776, General Lee, and afterward General Putnam, occupied this house as their headquarters, and, for a time, Washington.¹³ During the occupancy of the city by the English, Sir Guy Carleton and other British officers lived here. Mr. Isaac Sears, one of the prominent "Liberty Boys," lived in it subsequent to the Revolution. He was commonly called "King Sears," and his daughters "The Princesses." Afterward, it was taken by Mrs. Graham for a girls' school, and later was known as the best boarding-house in the city. For many years it was called the Washington Inn. In 1882, it was torn down, and the present structure known as the Washington Building was erected by Cyrus Field, to whose perseverance and skill was due the laying of the first Atlantic cable. After the land at the rear of these houses was extended, a house was built in what had been the garden of the Kennedy house, in which Robert Fulton, the inventor of the steamboat, lived and died. At number 3 Broadway, John Watts, one of the Governor's Council, lived; his daughter was the wife of Archibald Kennedy.¹⁴

Bowling Green

43

Next to this was the property of Martin Cregier, already referred to. This same Martin Cregier was a notable citizen.

He was by turns an Indian trader, sloop owner, and

1654
Martin Cregier

AUTOGRAPH OF MARTIN CREGIER.

master. In 1648, he was appointed one of the first four Fire Wardens. In 1654, we find that a new seal having been granted to the city, it was publicly delivered December 8, by the Director to Martin Cregier, presiding Burgomaster. (The salary of Burgomaster was three hundred and fifty guilders — when it was paid!) ¹⁵ He was Captain of the "Burghery," or citizens' company, he commanded an expedition against the Swedes on the Delaware River, and, in 1663, against the Esopus Indians. ¹⁶

In all of these various occupations he must have been successful, for, in 1650, we find he built upon his lot a tavern, which soon became a place of fashionable resort, the Delmonico or Waldorf-Astoria of the time. Fortune favored him, as before, for, in 1673, during the temporary recapture of the city by the Dutch, at a meeting of the "Valiant Council of War," an order was passed calling for the nomination of six persons as Burgomasters. "To wit: from the *Wealthiest* Inhabitants and those only who are of the Reformed Christian Religion." Cregier, fulfill-

Martin
Cregier

**King's
Arms
Tavern**

ing all these requirements, was duly elected, further proving that tavern-keeping was equally prosperous then as now, and not inconsistent with religious profession. In 1674, we find him superintending the fortifications, in anticipation of the coming of the English force. Whether his Dutch blood resented the final capture of the city by the English, or whether new and more modern taverns eclipsed his own and took his custom, we are not told; but we find that later he abandoned New York, and with his family moved to the banks of the Mohawk, then on the very frontiers, where he died, in 1713, nearly a century old.

As Cregier's Tavern became old and behind the times, a new building was erected, which afterward bore the name of "King's Arms Tavern," and at the time of the Revolution was familiarly called "Burns' Coffee House." It was among the few buildings that escaped the fires of 1776 and 1845. As late as 1860, the same building was still standing, bearing the title of "The Atlantic Garden." This is remarkable as being only the second structure to occupy the site since the foundation of the city. Almost until the present time the garden connected with this property has furnished a place for popular amusement. In Parker's *Post Boy* of May 27, 1762, appears the following notice:

"This is to give Notice, to all Gentlemen



45 KING'S ARMS TAVERN OR BURNS' COFFEE HOUSE 9-11 BROADWAY.

and Ladies, Lovers and Encouragers of Musick. That this day will be opened, by Messrs. Leonard & Dierval, Musick Masters, of this city, at Mr. Burns' Room, near the Battery, a public and weekly Concert of Musick. Tickets, four shillings."

"N. B. The concert is to begin exactly at 8 o'clock, and end at ten, on account of the coolness of the evening. No Body will be admitted without tickets, nor no money will be taken at the door."

In the next year, 1763, a Mrs. Steel, who had kept the King's Arms Tavern in Broad Street (the most noted tavern in the city for thirty years), removed to this house, carrying with her the name of her old place. The announcement is thus made in the *Post Boy*: "Mrs. Steel, Takes this method to acquaint her Friends and Customers, That the King's Arms Tavern, which she formerly kept opposite the Exchange, she hath now removed into Broadway (the lower end opposite the Fort), a more commodious house, where she will not only have it in her power to accommodate gentlemen with conveniences requisite as a tavern, but also, with genteel lodging apartments, which she doubts not will give satisfaction to every one who will be pleased to give her that honour."

Mrs. Steel's move must have been an unfortunate one, for, in 1765, we find Burns again in

News=
paper
Notices

Public
Indigna-
tion
against
Stamp
Act

control (perhaps he married the widow), and from then on the place seems to have been known as "Burns' Coffee House."

On October 31, 1765, a meeting of the merchants of the city was called at Burns' Coffee House, in order to express their opposition to the Stamp Act. Here they passed and signed the first non-importation agreement of the colonies. Over two hundred merchants signed the resolutions, thus securing for New York the credit of being the first to sacrifice its commercial interests to the cause of liberty. At this meeting a non-importation association was also organized, and a committee appointed to correspond with the other colonies, with a view to the universal adoption of similar measures. In the morning of the next day, November 1, when the Stamp Act was to go into effect, handbills mysteriously appeared throughout the city, forbidding any one, at his peril, to use the stamped paper.

In the evening two companies, largely composed of the Sons of Liberty, whose headquarters were at Burns' Coffee House, appeared in the streets. The first company proceeded to the "fields," or common (City Hall Park), where they erected a gallows and suspended thereon an effigy of Lieutenant-Governor Colden, with the stamped paper in his hand, a drum at his back, and by his side they hung an effigy of the devil with a boot in his hand.

Bowling Green

49

The other company, with another effigy of Colden seated in a chair, broke open his stable, and taking out his chariot placed the effigy in it, and then, joining the other company, both proceeded to the Fort, strictest orders having been given that not a word should be spoken or a stone thrown. On arriving at the Bowling Green, they found the soldiers drawn up on the ramparts of the Fort, and the muzzles of the cannon pointed toward them. General Gage, who was then the British commander, prudently refrained from firing upon the mob, knowing well that the first volley would be followed by the immediate destruction of the Fort. The people having been refused admission to the Fort, tore down the wooden fence about the Bowling Green, kindled a fire there, and burned the carriage, gallows, effigies, and all.

Repeal
of Stamp
Act

The odious Stamp Act was finally repealed on February 20, 1766. This action of the ministry was received with the wildest enthusiasm. The whole city was illuminated, special bonfires being kindled on the Bowling Green. For a time this action of the home government aroused the enthusiasm of the populace, and on June 23, another meeting was held at Burns' Coffee House, petitioning the Assembly to erect a statue in honor of William Pitt, and also an equestrian statue of George the Third. On August 21, 1770, the

Statue of
George the
Third

statue of George the Third having arrived from England, it was placed in the centre of Bowling Green amid the general acclamation of the people. In November, it was ordered : "That a temporary fence be forthwith made around the Bowling Green, of posts and rails not to exceed five rails high." The following year, 1771, it was ordered: "Whereas the General Assembly of this Province have been at the great expense of sending for an equestrian statue of his present majesty [George III.], and erected the same on the Bowling Green, before his majesty's Fort in this city, and this Board, conceiving, that unless the said Green be fenced in, the same will very soon become a receptacle for all the filth and dirt of the neighborhood, in order to prevent which, it is ordered that the same be fenced with iron rails, in a stone foundation, at an expense of £800." This fence and the original stones still surround the Green, the crowns which originally ornamented the tops of the pillars having been broken off.

At the breaking out of the Revolution, to celebrate the news of the Declaration of Independence, this statue was dragged from its pedestal, and drawn through the streets. It was then sent to Litchfield, the residence of Oliver Wolcott, Governor of Connecticut, by whose wife and daughter it was run into 42,000 bullets, "to assimilate with the brains



FIRST READING OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

Bowling Green

53

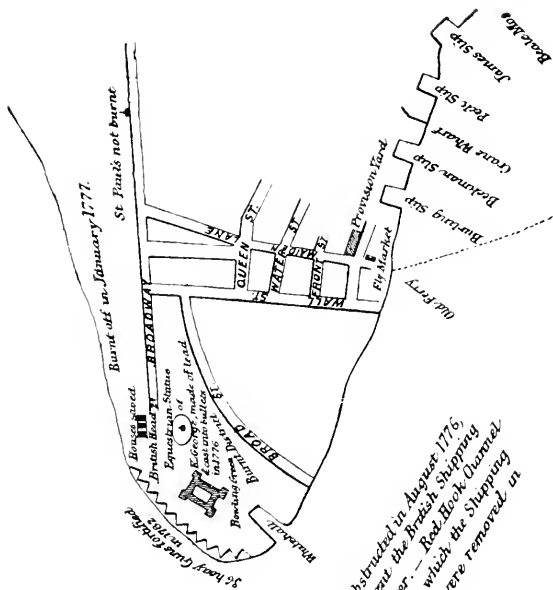
of the adversary." Subsequently, during the invasion of Connecticut by Governor Tryon, over four hundred British soldiers were killed, probably by this very lead. The pedestal of the statue remained standing for some time longer, as is shown in a contemporaneous print of the Bowling Green at the time of the Revolution.

On August 26, 1776, the city was captured by the English. Shortly after the occupancy of the British a great fire occurred, destroying four hundred and ninety-two houses, nearly one eighth of the entire city. The houses at the lower end of Broadway, facing Bowling Green on the west side, were saved.

The Green again welcomed the joyous and exultant crowds who there gathered to see the final evacuation of the city by the British on November 25, 1783. Before leaving, the English had nailed their defeated colors to the flag-pole which stood near, and in the hope of preventing the immediate raising of the stars and stripes, had thoroughly greased the pole. Captain John Van Arsdale, however, quickly managed to climb the pole, and in sight of the departing troops flung our flag to the breeze. Ever since then it has been the custom for one of his descendants, on the morning of Evacuation Day, to raise the flag on the present liberty pole in the park.

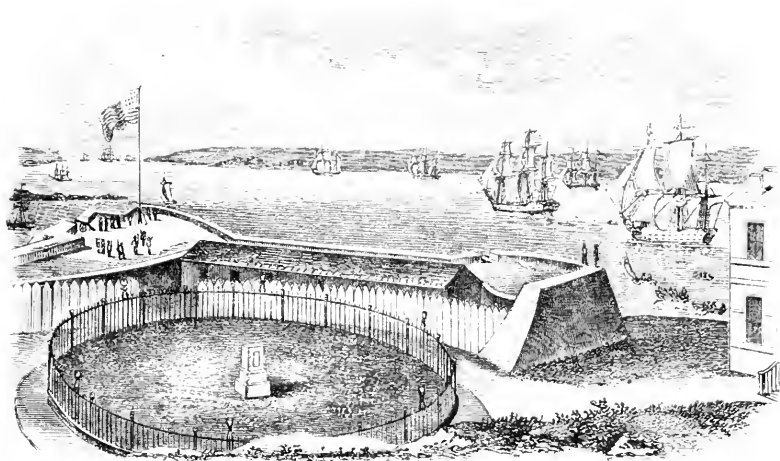
A map of Brooklyn, drawn by General

Capture
and Final
Evacuation
of the
City



This Western Channel was obstructed in August 1776, with Chevaux de Frises to prevent the British Shipping from passing into the East River. — Red Hook Channel was left unobstructed, through which the Shipping passed. The Chevaux de Frises were removed in Oct. and Nov 1776.

Entered by Sir George Clinton to Mr. Price, who was York in 1784, who erected a bond on the place and a Mile Race Course on the Island and races were run on the course in the year 1785 & 1786.



Jeremiah Johnson about this time, is curious, as indicating a fact which probably is unknown to most New Yorkers: that Governor's Island was at one time used as a race-track.

Governor's
Island



GOVERNOR'S ISLAND AS NOW.

On the adoption of the new constitution by the State of New York, the event was celebrated by a "wonderful" procession, which was reviewed by Washington and other notables, from the ramparts of the Fort, as it circled around the Bowling Green. One of the principal floats in this procession was an enormous ship named *Hamilton*, which at the close of the procession was deposited in the Green. This required, in 1789, the appointment of a committee "to remove the Federal Ship out of the Bowling Green, to have the

Bowling
Green
Leased to
Chancellor
Livingston

fence repaired, and to let out the Bowling Green."

Three years before this, in 1786, there is recorded a request of Mr. Daniel Ludlow.

"That he may be permitted to have the care and use of the Bowling Green, at the lower end of the Broad Way, for two years, he being willing, at his own expense, to manure the ground, and sow the same with proper grass seed, and have it well laid down as a green; and a request of Mr. Chancellor Livingston, that the direction and use of the said Bowling Green may be granted to him, were respectively read. *Ordered*, That the direction and use of the said Bowling Green, be granted to Mr. Chancellor Livingston, on the terms offered by Mr. Ludlow." Evidently, Mr. Chancellor Livingston had "a pull."

In 1791, the street committee reported "That in their opinion the Bowling Green, in front of the Government House, ought to be preserved, and that it will be necessary the fence should be raised in proportion to the regulation of Broadway. Agreed to." In 1795, it was "*Ordered*,—that the inclosed ground, commonly called the Bowling Green, in front of the Government House, be appropriated to the use of the Governor, for the time being." Notwithstanding the fact that it had been thus set aside for the use of the Governor, in this same year, on July 18, the sanctity of the Green

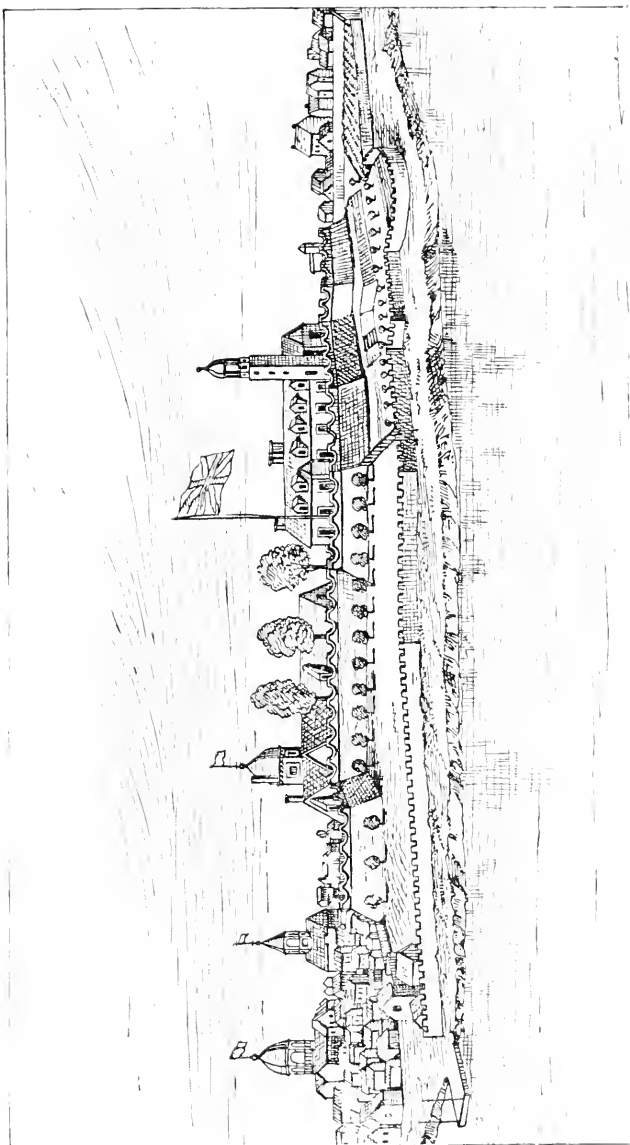
was invaded by a tumultuous crowd of citizens who had just held a public meeting to express their opposition to the treaty with England, which had recently been concluded by John Jay. At this meeting, which had been addressed by Aaron Burr and Chancellor Livingston, some one moved that they should adjourn to the Bowling Green and burn the treaty. This was done, the band playing the "Carmagnole,"—the French and American flags being bound together,—the treaty having been considered by many as a repudiation of our debt of gratitude to France.

The Governor did not seem to appreciate the advantages of the Bowling Green, or perhaps he was not able to preserve its privacy, for, in 1798, we find that it was ordered "That Mr. John Rogers may have the use of the Bowling Green, on condition that he keep it in good order, and suffer no *creatures* to run in it."

In a map of 1797, the Bowling Green has assumed its present shape, the Fort has disappeared, the Government House, above referred to, occupying its site, the Battery has been extended, but even yet the "Order" given seventy years before for the laying out of additional streets, had not been complied with except as to Greenwich Street, showing that municipal progress was not much more rapid at that time than now. The destruction of the Fort seems to have been determined

The Jay
Treaty
Burned in
The Green

60	Bowling Green
Destruction of the Fort	<p data-bbox="344 232 950 401">upon in 1789, when, by act of the Legislature, "The ground at the Fort and the Battery was reserved for the public use and for continuing the Broad Way through to the river." This last was never done.</p> <p data-bbox="344 404 950 1102">In 1790, it was "Ordered, that Messrs. Torboss, Van Zant and George Janeway, be appointed commissioners to superintend the taking down the stone and removing the earth of the Fort." The earth thus removed was used to enlarge the area of the Battery "from Eli's corner to the Flat Rock." When the Fort was torn down, a vault, which had been sealed up under the chapel, was uncovered. In this were the remains of Lord Bellamont, a former Governor, members of his family, and some others. Lord Bellamont's family was distinguished by the silver plates bearing the family escutcheon, let into the lead coffins. The coffins and bones were buried in an unmarked grave in St. Paul's churchyard. Mr. Van Zant, one of the commissioners, secured the silver plates, intending to preserve them, but after his death they were converted into spoons.</p> <p data-bbox="344 1105 950 1274">The Battery, which has retained nothing whatever suggestive of its warlike origin except the name, owes its beginning to the following order. In 1693, the then Governor made the following proclamation: ¹⁷</p> <p data-bbox="376 1277 950 1309">"Whereas there is actual warr between</p>



From "In Old New York."

61

THE FORT AND BATTERY, 1750.

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Bowling Green

63

our Sovereign Lord and Lady the King and Queen, and the French King; and I am informed of a Squadron of Ships and land forces, intended from France to invade this City and Province; and whereas, for the safety and preservation thereof, I finde itt of absolute necessity to make a platforme upon the outmost pointe of rocks under the Fort, whereon I intend to build a battery to command both rivers; I have therefore thought fitte, and doe hereby require you, the Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen of the City of New York and Manning and Barnes Island, to cut down 86 cordes of stockades, of 12 feet in length, and to have them in readiness to be conveyed to New York.

(Signed) "BENJ. FLETCHER."

The rocks upon which the Battery was built were called Capske Rocks. These works were then known as the Whitehall Battery, and from this time on, until the close of the Revolutionary War, various additions were made thereto, and later, somewhere about the beginning of the present century, there was built what was known as the Southwest Battery, some three hundred feet or more from the shore, the approach to which was by means of a bridge with a draw. This later was called "Castle Clinton." In the year 1822, upon the Federal government taking possession of Governor's Island, Castle Clin-

Origin
of the
Battery

Castle
Garden

ton was ceded to the city. It was then proposed that this and the former Battery, and the grounds included between, should be made into a public park, Castle Clinton being turned into a public assembly-room, and called Castle Garden.

On Lafayette's return to America, in 1824, "a splendid fête and gala was given to him at Castle Garden, on September 14, which for grandeur, expense, and entire effect was never before witnessed in this country. About six thousand persons were assembled in that immense area, and the evening being clear and calm, the whole passed off happily, owing to the excellent arrangements of the committee."¹⁸

On December 5, 1851, the Hungarian hero, Louis Kossuth, arrived, and was received at Castle Garden, after which he was escorted to his hotel by a procession, which for years was famous for its size and enthusiasm. Jenny Lind here gave her first concert September 12, 1850. For nearly forty years, beginning in 1855, this building was used as the emigrants' landing-place and depot, and later was transformed into a public aquarium.

For many years the Battery was the city's parade-ground. Here, in the heyday of their popularity, the Pulaski Cadets, the Light Guard, the red-coated City Guards, and the Tompkins Blues went through their elaborate



manœuvres, before the admiring gaze of the citizens grouped in surrounding windows and on the walks. Here, also, the Blue Stockings and the Red Stockings vied for championship in the national game.

Castle
Garden
Fêtes



THE AQUARIUM.

In his Diary, Philip Hone writes:

"*April 15, 1834.*—This was the day of the Great Fête at Castle Garden, to celebrate the triumph gained by the Whig Party in the late Charter election in this city, and it went off

Castle
Garden

gloriously. Tables were spread in a double row within the outer circumference. Three pipes of wine and 40 barrels of beer were placed in the centre under an awning, and served out during the repast."¹⁹

"*Monday, October the 27th, 1834.*—The Jackson men marched down to Castle Garden, where a feast (not of reason) was prepared, and a flow of whiskey (not of soul) was served out gratuitously to the well drilled troops of the Regency. They fired guns and exhibited fire works, and all in the way of rejoicing for victories *not* won, or rather 'to keep their spirits up by pouring spirits down.'"²⁰

"*April the 10th, 1835.*—The weather being fine and spring-like, I walked for an hour with my wife on the battery. Strange as it is, I do not think that either of us had done such a thing in the last seven years, and what a wonderful spot it is. The grounds are in fine order. The noble bay, with the opposite shores of New Jersey, Staten and Long Islands, vessels of every description, from the noble, well-appointed Liverpool packet, to the little market craft and steamers arriving from every point, give life and animation to a prospect unexcelled by any city in the world. It would be well worth travelling 100 miles out of one's way in a foreign country to get a sight of, and yet we citizens of New York, who have it all under our noses seldom enjoy it. Like

Bowling Green

69

all other enjoyments, it loses its value from being too easily obtained." ²¹

In a very rare book of letters, written in 1793, by Governor Drayton, of Carolina, he writes: "At the lower end of Broadway is the Battery, and public parade; . . . between the guns and the water is a public walk, made by a gentle decline from the platform; . . . some little distance behind the guns two rows of elm trees are planted; which in a short time will afford an agreeable shade; . . . the back part of the ground is laid out in smaller walks, terraces, and a *bowling green*."

"Overlooking this prospect, is the Government House; plac'd upon an handsome elevation, and fronting Broadway, having before it an elegant elliptical approach, round an area of near an acre of ground, enclosed by an iron railing. In the midst of this is a pedastal, which formerly was pressed by a leaden equestrian statue of the King of Great Britain; but having been dismantled of that, for the use of the continental army, it now remains ready, in due time I hope, to receive the statue of the President of the United States of America. When that period shall arrive, in addition to the many daily occurrences which lead the mind of the passenger to pensive reflection; this monument of his country's gratitude shall call his attention; and while deeds of former times, shall

Drayton's
Letters
1793

70	Bowling Green
Govern- ment House	<p>pass in sweet review before him, the tear shall lament the loss of an hero—but the heart collected within itself, shall urge him by so bright an example, to call forth his powers and to pursue the steps of virtue and of honor.”</p> <p>“ . . . The Government House is two stories high. Projecting before it is a portico, covered by a pediment; upon which is superbly carved in basso relievo, the arms of the State, supported by justice and liberty, as large as life. The arms and figures are white, placed in a blue field; and the pediment is supported by four white pillars of the Ionic order, which are the height of both stories.”</p> <p>The Government House herein referred to was built upon a part of the land occupied by the Fort. As we have already seen, it was in 1790 that the Fort was taken down, and shortly afterward this house was erected for the use of Washington. Afterward, Governors Clinton and Jay both lived in it, and at one time it was used as a Custom-House.²²</p> <p>We can find no record showing when the Fort and the adjacent land passed from under the control of the City to that of the Province, and thence to the State. It was by an act of the Legislature, not of the City Council, that, in 1790, the Fort was destroyed and the Government House built. On May 26, 1812, an act was passed:</p>



Bowling Green

73

“ Be it enacted by the people of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, that the Comptroller is hereby authorized to sell and convey in fee simple, all the right, title and interest of the people of this state in and to the Government House and the grounds adjoining, in the city of New York, to the mayor, aldermen and commonalty of the said city, for a sum not less than fifty thousand dollars, and to receive in payment therefor, the bond of the said mayor, aldermen and commonalty, payable in ten years, with interest annually, at the rate of six per centum :

“ *Provided always*, That the said corporation shall not have the right of selling the said grounds for the erection of private buildings, or other individual purposes.”

The city authorities evidently did not propose to be limited in their rights, nor to pay a round sum of money for land which they could not realize upon, however cheap it might seem. They refused to avail themselves of the option to purchase, so on April 13, 1813, another act was passed: “ Be it further enacted, That the proviso to the enacting clause of the act entitled ‘ An act to authorize the sale of certain public property in the city of New York,’ passed the 26th of May 1812, be and the same is hereby repealed, and that if the mayor, aldermen and commonalty of New York shall

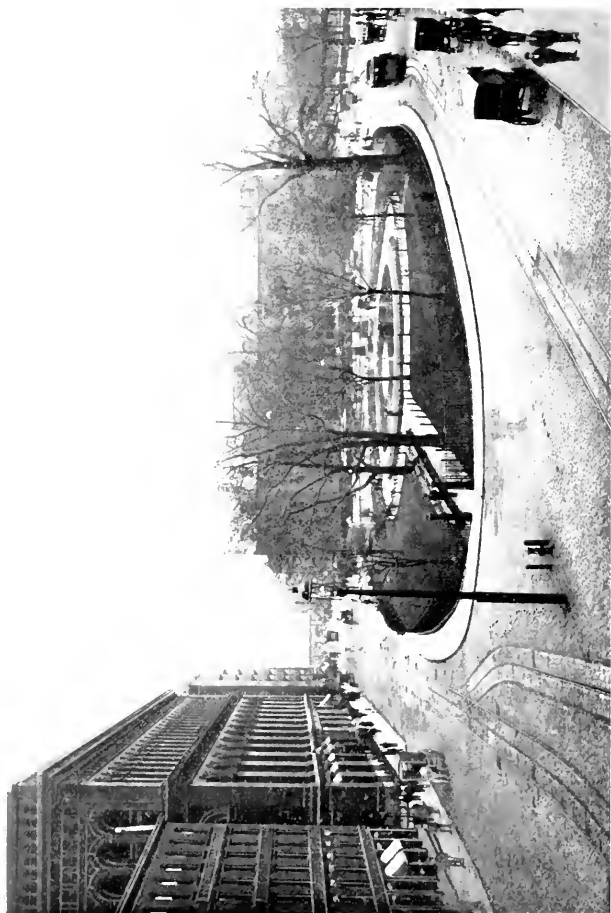
Transfer
Govern-
ment
House and
Land to
the City

74	Bowling Green
Sale of Land by the City	<p>not, by the first day of November next, purchase the Government House and lands adjoining, then the authority given to the comptroller in and by said act to sell the said house and land shall cease."</p> <p>This threat seems to have supplied the necessary fillip, and suggested a chance for speculation, for under date of August 2, 1813, the Comptroller of the State "conveyed to the said Mayor, &c., all the certain messuage and lot of ground situate in the First Ward of the city of New York, commonly known by the name of the Government House and lot. Subject to a lease of the Government House to DeWitt Clinton and others, made pursuant to section 34 of the act of 29 March, 1809, which does not expire until the 1st of May, 1815." As soon as the lease expired, the city hastened to "bag its profit," selling the land and giving title thereto on June 19, 1815, for about double what they were under bond to pay, and before they had paid out anything whatever. Some time during this year the Government House is said to have been destroyed by fire.</p> <p>The land facing on the Green was sold in seven parcels or lots, each being about thirty-one feet front and one hundred and thirty feet in depth, except the one on the northeast, at the corner of Whitehall Street, which was only four feet on the front and twenty-three feet wide in the rear. The original grantees were:</p>

Bowling Green	75
<p>Lot 1. (<i>Northwest corner.</i>) Deeded to Noah Brown. 1825 to 1861, owned by Stephen Whitney. 1888 " present, " " U. S. Trust Company.</p> <p>Lot. 2. Deeded to Abijah Weston. 1834 to 1887, owned by Elisha Riggs. 1887 " present, " " J. L. Cadwalader.</p> <p>Lot 3. Deeded to Elbert Anderson. 1821 to 1829, owned by Samuel Ward, Jr. 1829 " 1853, " " Andrew Foster. 1854 " present, " " Cornelius Vander- bilt, <i>et al.</i></p> <p>Lot 4. Deeded to Elbert Anderson. 1823 to 1829, owned by Herman Le Roy. 1829 " 1852, " " Lewis Curtis. 1862 " present, " " A. Hemenway, <i>et al.</i>, trustees, etc.</p> <p>Lot 5. Deeded to James Byers. 1838 to 1883, owned by Ferdinand Suydam, <i>et al.</i>, trustees, etc. 1883 to present, owned by Theodore Chiches- ter.</p> <p>Lot 6. Deeded to Peter Remsen. 1840 to 1855, owned by W. E. Wilmerding. 1871 " present, " " Herman C. VonPost.</p> <p>Lot 7. (<i>Northeast corner.</i>) Deeded to John Hone.</p> <p>Hone was the only original owner who re- tained his lot more than a year or so. He sold it in 1860 to W. B. Cooper, in whose fam- ily it still remains.</p>	<p>Original Grantees of Land South of Bowling Green</p>

76	Bowling Green
<p>“Steam- ship Row.”</p>	<p>From the earliest days of the city, when the Governor lived within the Fort, later, when the Government House occupied this same site, and afterwards, when this land became private property, this locality, and the immediate neighborhood, was the most select and fashionable part of the city. As the natural growth of the city and the encroachment of business drove private residences farther and farther northward, this particular row of houses facing the Green preserved their individual characteristics, and were used as dwellings. They still retain their exterior appearance, though they have ceased to be so used. They are now occupied by the offices of the large foreign steamship companies, which has given them the name of “Steamship Row.” Some years ago it was ordered by Congress that this land should be bought and the United States Custom-House be built here. Opposition and litigation have until now prevented, but at last it seems likely that this project will be accomplished, and this land, which had always been public property until 1815, and upon which the old Custom-House had been for a time, will again become the property of the public, and in place of a Fort—emblem of strife and distrust among nations—a Custom-House, suggestive of peaceful intercourse and friendly commerce, will be built, worthy of the nation and of the city.</p>





Bowling Green

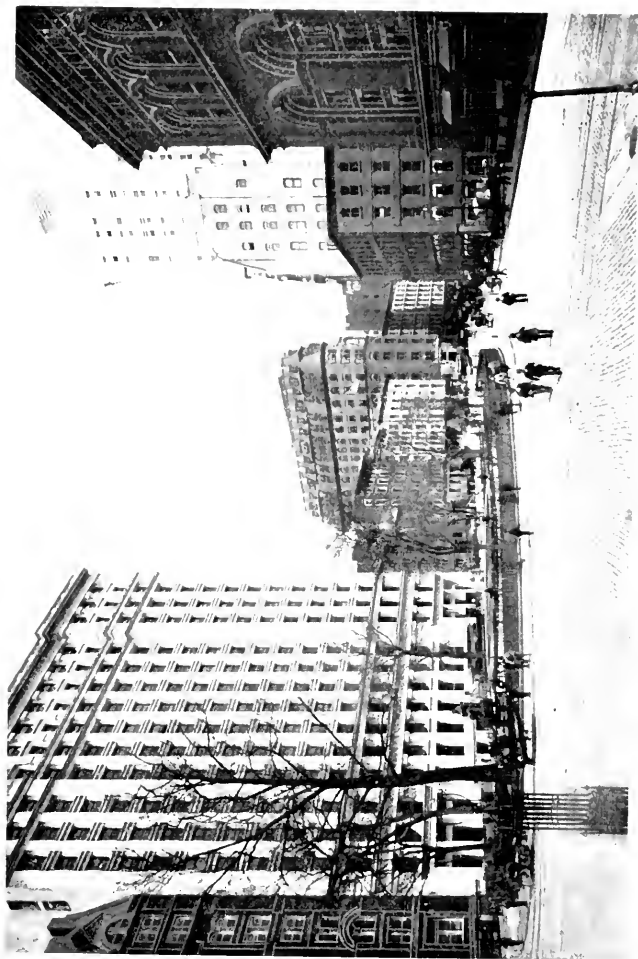
79

The land on the east of the Green, where the Produce Exchange now stands, was first granted to individuals about 1646. Among the first owners were Jonas Barteltzen and Frerick Arenzen. The latter owned the land on the southwest corner of Whitehall and what was then Marketfield Streets. Allard Anthony, one of the most prominent citizens of his day, lived on the opposite corner. Roelof Jansen Haas owned the land to the corner of Beaver Street.²³ The southern portion of the Produce Exchange land was forfeited to the people of the State at the time of the Revolution, by the attainders of Beverly Robinson and Frederick Philipse. The Legislature, on May 12, 1784, passed "An Act for the speedy sale of the confiscated and forfeited estates within this State." Isaac Stoutenburg and Philip Van Cortlandt, the commissioners appointed under this act, sold the land. In 1880, the Legislature passed a special act authorizing the closing of Marketfield Street, and deeding it to the Produce Exchange.

We have already referred to some of the earlier occupants of the properties now known as numbers 1 to 11 Broadway. In the house standing on what is now 9 Broadway, Benedict Arnold, after the capture of André and the exposure of his treachery, had his quarters.²⁴ It was while here that Sergeant John Champe attempted to capture him. The garden at the

Produce
Exchange
Land East
of Bowling
Green

80	Bowling Green
Former Residents Near Bowling Green	<p>rear of the house sloped down to the river, and a party of patriots were to land here from a boat, and, having secured, carry him away. The very day of the attempt Arnold moved his quarters, it was never known whether simply by accident, or from disclosure of the plot. Washington Irving lived around the corner, on State Street, and near him Mr. Howland, long one of the most prominent shipping-merchants of the city.²⁵ James K. Paulding, a descendant of one of the captors of Major André, who became Secretary of the Navy under Van Buren, and who was one of the authors of <i>Salmagundi</i>, lived on the same block, at 29 Whitehall Street.</p> <p>While all these changes have been going on around it, the Green has quietly, and with the proud conservatism of age, preserved its own dignified existence. Always ready to give itself to the public, whether for play or rest, in peace or war, it has been the centre of the busy life of the village, of the fashionable life of the town, and now of the commercial activity of the city. The Produce Exchange, controlling the grain trade of a continent, looks down upon it. The offices of the largest steamship companies of the world surround it. The Custom-House, registering the commerce of the Western Hemisphere, will face it. Some of the greatest modern office buildings, overtopping the spire of "Old</p>



THE BEGINNING OF BROADWAY.



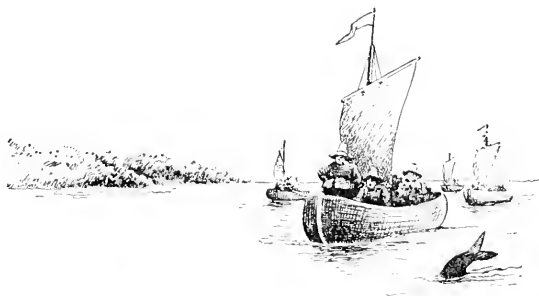
BOWLING GREEN OFFICES.
5-11 BROADWAY.

Bowling Green

83

Trinity," hem it in. Broadway, the longest street in the world, starts from its oval. In this year of grace, 1898, New York has greatly enlarged its borders; the city of Brooklyn and many of the surrounding townships having united in the one city now called colloquially "Greater New York." Of this new city our little friend, the Bowling Green, has become the heart. It is the geographical centre of the enlarged metropolis.

Bowling
Green the
Centre of
Greater
New York



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